

STAFF REPORT REGULAR MEETING

AGENDA DATE: April 21, 2026

DEPARTMENT: City Manager

TITLE:

Consideration and approval of the proposed City of Lake Worth Beach Educational Innovation and Advancement Grant Program

SUMMARY:

The City of Lake Worth Beach is seeking to establish a grant program to support school-based initiatives that enhance student success and strengthen partnerships between schools, families, and the community. Aligned with the City's Comprehensive Plan, the program will fund projects in priority areas such as STEM, literacy, environmental sustainability, mentorship, college readiness, arts, and mental wellness. Administered by the Office of the City Manager, applications will be reviewed and ranked by the City Commission based on merit, impact, and alignment with program goals.

BACKGROUND AND JUSTIFICATION:

The Commission gave consensus for staff to develop an educational program that will strengthen the partnership between the City of Lake Worth Beach and local schools utilizing the \$75,000 in the education fund.

The city is committed to the enhanced academic success of all students in Lake Worth Beach. To further such academic success, the Commission has allocated \$75,000 which will be made available, in whole or in part, through this program as competitive grant funding to support innovative school-based programs and projects that improve student outcome and foster collaboration between schools, families and the community.

In establishing this program, the City Commission recognizes the public benefit in supporting education and the academic success of the students in the City consistent with the City's adopted Comprehensive Plan. Policy 10.1.3.1 of the Education Element of the City's Comprehensive Plan states that "the City will enhance the educational partnerships with its non-profit partners through innovative funding sources such as grants, pilot or trial programs that might be implemented through government entities, non-profit organizations or educational foundations". Policy 10.1.3.2 states that "[t]he City through its coordination mechanisms and staff shall continue to explore partnerships and funding opportunities to improve educational opportunities in Lake Worth".

The City will allocate \$75,000 in competitive grant funding to support eligible school-based programs and projects. Funds will be awarded through a competitive review process based on merit, impact, and alignment with program goals.

Eligible projects must address one or more of the following priority areas:

- STEM laboratories and associated clubs
- Literacy improvement initiatives
- Environmental stewardship and sustainability programs
- Mentorship and after-school tutoring programs
- College and career readiness workshops and activities
- Arts and cultural enrichment programs
- School-based mental wellness and leadership development initiatives

The program will be administered by the Office of the City Manager. The City Commission will review and rank the applications based upon the established selection criteria, once that process is completed, the commission will vote to award the grant funding.

Projects that are submitted will be evaluated by the committee and eligible for funding based on the following:

- Excellence Award - \$10,000

- Achievement Award -\$7,500
- Innovation Award -\$5,000.

MOTION:

Move to approve/disapprove the proposed City of Lake Worth Beach Educational Innovation and Advancement Grant Program and appropriate \$75,000 to administer the grant program.

ATTACHMENT(S):

Fiscal Impact Analysis attached
Educational Innovation Advancement Grant Outline
Presentation

FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Fiscal Years	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Inflows/Revenues					
Appropriated (Budgeted)	0	0	0	0	0
Program Income	0	0	0	0	0
Grants	0	0	0	0	0
In Kind	0	0	0	0	0
Outflows/Expenditures					
Appropriated (Budgeted)	0	0	0	0	0
Operating	\$75,000	0	0	0	0
Capital	0	0	0	0	0
Net Fiscal Impact <i>(If not budgeted)</i>	\$75,000	0	0	0	0
No. of Addn'l Full-Time Employee Positions	0	0	0	0	0

New Appropriation (Not Budgeted) Fiscal Impact:		
	Revenue Source	Expenditure
Department	Public Education Fund	Public Education Fund
Division	N/A	N/A
GL Description	Other Sources/Use of Fund Balance	Administrative/Other Contractual Services
GL Account Number	105-0000-395.00-00	105-9010-519.34-50
Project Number	N/A	N/A
Requested Funds	\$75,000	\$75,000
Remaining Balance	N/A	N/A